

Priority: The % attendance for children at the school increases further.

Why is this a priority for us?

The school has been working hard to improve the overall levels of school attendance for a number of years. Our main focus has been to address levels of attendance which have been below the average attendance levels achieved nationally and to ensure that we remain below national % for persistent absence measures. The immediate and knock-on effects of the covid crisis have had a significant and detrimental impact upon attendance rates at our school and the progress which had been made in this area.

Key areas of concern for us are

- a high % of our pupils had unauthorised **term- time holidays** in 21/22
- the overall **absence and persistent absence %** in 21/22 are far too high. and indicates a post covid cultural shift
- The % of **SEND and Pupil Premium** children with poor attendance is a concern.

What impact is this having?

Over the last few years, our close monitoring of, and targeted action towards, improving individual attendance rates has helped us to achieve a steady improvement in attendance for the school overall.

This year we aim to reverse the impact of Covid on attendance and to:

- Achieve an **overall absence rate of <5%**
- Ensure that the gap in absence % for all **vulnerable groups** is in line with equivalent non-vulnerable groups
- PA rates** in line with national PA rates.

What are we doing?

The school **closely monitors** whole school, individual and group attendance. This information is used to inform our intervention strategy.

We celebrate good attendance.

Using the regular monitoring of individual attendance, we issue **letters to parents** where the overall attendance level or the percentage of broken weeks is a concern. This letter is designed to have minimal text and clear graphical images showing our concerns relative to the national picture and the financial cost of the education which has been missed. This letter will invite the parent in to **discuss our concerns** with Mrs Daylak or Mr Higgs.

In line with the Working Together to Improve School Attendance Document we are continuing to work with our families and the relevant agencies to **remove the barriers** which exist and contribute to poor attendance.

We buy in a support package and use this to **pursue individual case concerns** where our in-house actions have not been successful in achieving positive changes.

We have reluctantly introduced fines for term-time holidays.